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Patty Murray budget: \$1 trillion in new revenue

By: [Manu Raju](#)

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Sen. Patty Murray's new budget plan will raise tax revenues by \$1 trillion while cutting spending by the same amount over the next decade, according to people familiar with the proposal.

The Budget Committee chairwoman plans to brief fellow Democratic senators over the new proposal in a closed-door lunch Tuesday that President Barack Obama is also scheduled to attend. Committee deliberations will begin Wednesday, and the panel expects to vote on the plan Thursday before floor debate next week.

Democrats expect to remain largely united, and Murray anticipates having the support of the 11 other Democrats on her committee, giving her enough support to send the bill to the floor on a party-line basis.

But the tax figure could present a problem for a handful of red-state Democrats up for reelection who Republicans will undoubtedly say are supporting a \$1 trillion tax hike if they back the plan.

Nevertheless, Democratic leaders believe the Murray plan will allow their party to show a major contrast with Rep. Paul Ryan's budget and its calls for a significant overhaul of Medicare. And they expect to have the support of at least 50 Democrats on the floor to ensure they would be able to pass the first budget out of the Senate in four years.

The Murray plan would not balance the budget in a 10-year timeframe like the Ryan proposal would. But Murray's 50-50 split between taxes and spending is supposed to be consistent with Obama's call for a "balanced" approach for deficit reduction, something they argue voters largely support rather than the cuts-only approach backed by Republicans.

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